

Childminder report

Inspection date: 3 July 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder plans an outstanding selection of activities that enthuse children and motivate them to learn. For example, children are fascinated when she provides them with mystery toy animals frozen in ice cubes. They become completely absorbed as they excitedly discuss what might be inside the ice and consider how to help it melt quickly. They rapidly learn about how things melt and use different animal names, textures and tools in their play. The childminder is highly successful at helping children develop strength in their hands in readiness for future writing. For instance, she provides tweezers and small scoops for children to explore and move peas into different containers. Children laugh as they play together and practise blowing peas with straws into a target. This helps to develop the muscles in their mouths for speaking, as well as excellent hand-eye coordination.

The childminder is an exceptionally warm and fun practitioner. Children love to play with her and regularly express their appreciation for the fun activities she plans. The childminder is highly responsive to supporting children's behaviour. When children need extra support to regulate their behaviour, the childminder gives regular positive reminders to use 'kind hands' and share with friends. Children respond positively to the childminder's guidance and make rapid progress with their personal development.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder is passionate about her professional development and learning new teaching techniques. For example, she attended a recent training day, which helped her develop excellent knowledge about supporting children with healthy lifestyles. Following this training, the childminder plans highly engaging sessions that support children to relax, breathe and move with coloured scarfs. The childminder has exemplary knowledge of how to keep children safe. She attends enhanced safeguarding training and regularly refreshes her knowledge about a wide range of indicators that children could be at risk of harm.
- The childminder regularly reflects on the service she provides and seeks the views of children and their parents. She works closely with parents to continue children's learning at home. For example, she provides fun and engaging resources to help children develop their literacy and numeracy skills at home. Parents value high-quality communication with the childminder in person and through an app that is updated on a daily basis.
- The childminder's teaching skills are outstanding. She expertly incorporates the language of mathematics into activities and daily routines. This supports older children who are preparing for their move to school to develop exceptional mathematical understanding. For example, they show high levels of confidence

while completing simple additions. They concentrate exceptionally well as they learn to match groups of items with numbers and identify numerals during play. Very young children join in counting to three and learn positional language while they laugh and create bubbles with large wands.

- The childminder plans excellent activities to support children's communication and language extremely well. For example, the childminder regularly revisits a wide range of songs and rhymes to help children develop their vocabulary and express themselves. Older children love to sing along, and younger children show high levels of engagement as they explore finger puppets and move in time to the music. Children show plenty of prior learning while they recite whole rhymes and sing favourite songs.
- Children develop a love for reading. They talk among themselves excitedly as they explore books that celebrate some of their home languages. The childminder learns new words in different languages and models them alongside the English word to support children's understanding. Children really enjoy their visits to a local library, where they choose new books and attend song-time sessions. They learn lots of new songs and develop high levels of confidence in socialising with new friends.
- The childminder plans rich experiences to help children learn lots of new facts about people and cultures different to their own. For example, parents come in to share food from their cultural celebrations and teach children to make tealights to celebrate Diwali. Children learn about different ceremonies at a church and discuss why people pray. The childminder planned a highly successful trip with her wider network, so children could visit people in an elderly care home. Children explore plenty of resources to learn about all the different people who help us, such as doctors, firefighters and vets. They enjoy dressing up and telling the childminder about different jobs, using exceptional vocabulary for their age.
- Children are animated as they discuss recent farm trips with the childminder. They recall meeting peacocks and horses on their trip out and learning about bees. These experiences help children develop an excellent understanding of the natural world around them. The childminder teaches children many ways to stay safe when going on various trips out. For example, older children confidently explain the importance of washing hands after petting animals.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440862
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10350879
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	7 September 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Basingstoke, Hampshire. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Charlotte Foster

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector assessed the childminder's understanding of how to keep children safe.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder evaluated a planned activity with the inspector.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
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